Development of tourist resorts in Himachal Pradesh

3257. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of tourists who visited Himachal Pradesh during 1993, 1994 and till date;

(b) the number of foreign tourists who visited Himachal Pradesh during the same period;

(c) the number of tourist resorts and their locations in that state at present;

(d) whether in view of the interest shown by Indian and foreign tourist in H.P., Government are considering to improve upon the present tourist resorts and develop new ones; and

(e) whether any plan has been drawn in this regard; if so, the details therof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) According to the information available from the State Governments, the number of domestic and foreign tourists who visited Himachal Pradesh during 1993, 1994 and upto March 1995 were as follows:—

Year	Number of tourists (in lakh)		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total
1993	14.55	0.12	14.67
1994	17.21	0.52	17.73
1995(P) (Upto March)	2.74	0.08	2.82

(c) There are 934 hotels/resorts in Himachal Pradesh and their location Division-wise is as follows:—

Division	No. of hotels/ resorts
Kullu	419
Shimla	235
Kangra	82
Chamba	77
Mandi	121

(d) and (e) The development of tourism in each State is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. However, financial assistance is provided by the Central Department of Tourism for the implementation of tourism projects based on specific proposals received from them and their merit and inter-se priorities. The Central financial assistance sanctioned for the development of tourism infrastructure in Himachal Pradesh during the last three years are as given below:—

Year	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1992-93	111.94
1993-94	350.42
1994-95	297.90

Pilferage of duty free stock of Air India

3258. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state: